REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this response, Claims 1-9 were pending in the application, of which Claim 1 is independent. In the Office Action dated June 30, 2005, Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and Claims 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Following this response, Claims 1-9 remain in this application. Applicants hereby address the Examiner's rejections in turn.

I.   Change to Attorney Docket Number

Please note that the Attorney Docket Number for this application is now **14917.0246USI1/MS300390.30**.

II.   Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action dated June 30, 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,563,503 ("*Comair*"). Claim 1 has been amended, and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment overcomes this rejection and adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found at least in the specification on page 24, line 28 through page 25, line 2.

Amended Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the reason that it recites, for example, "the animation behavior properties including a to property specifying an ending animation value, a from property specifying a starting animation value, and a by property specifying a difference between the ending animation value and the starting animation value."

In contrast, *Comair* at least does not disclose the aforementioned recitation. For example, *Comair* merely discloses a cat entity 60 that transitions between various states (e.g., asleep state 199a, wake state 199b, play state 199c, hunt state 199d, eat state 199e, and a die state 199F) based on various external stimuli (e.g., the passage of time, whether or not the cat 60 is able to catch a mouse 62, etc.) (*see* col. 10, lines 20-25). In *Comair*, a "by" property specifying a difference between an ending animation value and a starting animation value is not disclosed.

Comair does not anticipate the claimed invention because *Comair* at least does not disclose "the animation behavior properties including a to property specifying an ending animation value, a from property specifying a starting animation value, and a by property specifying a difference between the ending animation value and the starting animation value", as recited by amended Claim 1. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited art, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 2-9 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 1, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 2-9.

III.   Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. The preceding arguments are based only on the arguments in the
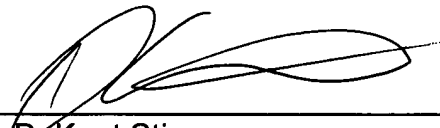
Office Action, and therefore do not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Office Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, the preceding argument in favor of patentability is advanced without prejudice to other bases of patentability. Furthermore, the Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 25, 2005   By:_____

D. Kent Stier
Reg. No. 50,640

Merchant & Gould
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-9946
Telephone: 404.954.5066

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